trends available in increase of export of handicrafts and hand-knotted carpets since 2001-02, which is as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	Exports (Rs. in crores)	%growth in export
1.	2001-2002	9205.63	—
2.	2002-2003	10933.67	+18.77
3.	2003-2004	12765.18	+16.75
4.	2004-2005	15255.90	+19.51

For development and promotion of handicrafts industry, the scheme being implemented by the Government include Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana for integrated development of craft clusters; Design & Technology Upgradation; Marketing & Support Services; Export Promotion; Special Handicrafts Training Project; Research & Development; Work shed; Credit Guarantee Scheme; Bima Yojana etc. The incentives available under the above schemes to the artisans including women artisans are: working capital credit through Artisans Credit Card (ACC)/Credit Guarantee Scheme; assistance for work sheds; stipend/wage compensation under training programmes; TA/DA & transportation charges to artisans of NER; Andaman Nicobar Island; Lakshadweep; Ladakh region of J&K; KBK districts of Orissa; States & UTs affected by natural calamities for participation in marketing events, National Award for Excellence in craftsmanship; pension to National Awardees/National Merit Certificate holders under indigent circumstances; deputation of master craftsperson for live demonstration in international fairs/exhibition abroad etc.

Slow implementation of rural development schemes

†*215. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rural development schemes are running at a very slow pace in several States due to which the people in need are not getting their benefits;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to expedite the work related to said schemes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States are not-co-operating with the Central vigilance team;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what concrete steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development through State Governments/UT Administrations is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for selt employment, wage employment, area development, rural connectivity and for providing basic needs like shelter, drinking water and sanitation etc. for the rural poor in the country. According to the progress reports received from the State Governments/ UT Administrations and evaluation studies conducted by reputed independent research organizations, the performance of the rural development schemes is found to be satisfactory.

The Ministry of Rural Development has evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the implementation of the programmes, including the utilization of funds, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, field visits by the Area Officers of the Ministry, reviews with the State Secretaries and with the Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishads/ Panchayats, monitoring by the District Level Monitoring agencies and National Level Monitors. Besides, Concurrent Evaluations and Impact Assessment Studies are also conducted to find out more effective ways of achieving the programme objectives. The Ministry of Rural Development has also adopted a four pronged strategy comprising (i) creation of awareness about the schemes (ii) transparency (iii) peoples partnership and (iv) accountability, in order to expedite the works related to all these schemes.

All the State Governments and UT Administrations are cooperating with the Ministry in implementing the schemes in accordance with the programme guidelines.